Project: Scientific methods to study animal behavior

1. Animal models: you can choose any animal you like: your pets, animals in the park, zoo, aquarium, or your backyard. Discuss with me once you choose an animal.
2. Observe animal behavior for at least 30 mins per period. Observe at least 2 periods (the more the better). Try to focus on the same animal, and observe its behavior at different time of day or under different social circumstances, which may provide a lot of information.
3. During each observation period, document everything you observe and try to quantify it. For example: How many times does the animal feed ? how long does it take to perform that behavior (minutes).
4. Analyze your observed data, make a graph (hand in your first report by **April 1**).
5. Come up with proximate and ultimate questions, based on your observation data.
6. Choose one of your questions, and come up with more than one hypothesis.

1. Design experiments to test your hypotheses (you may conduct a real experiment).

1. Based on the results, discuss under what circumstances your hypothesis will be approved or falsified.
2. Write your final report.